

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving programming from a distribution network;

receiving a user command at a viewer appliance communicating with the distribution network at a premises of the viewer;

establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component over a connection to an alternative network; and

relative to receiving the user command, concurrently forwarding the user command from the viewer appliance over the connection to the alternative network ~~a component located remotely from the premises of the viewer.~~

2. (Cancel)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

executing the user command at the viewer appliance to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein concurrently forwarding the user command comprises concurrently forwarding the user command to a storage device.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising matching the user command to a present context and concurrently forwarding the matching to the storage device.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising determining a result of the user command relative to a present context and concurrently forwarding the result to the storage device.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the user command at the viewer appliance comprises receiving the user command at a set-top box, and wherein forwarding the user command comprises forwarding the user command from the viewer appliance to a video control system.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating targeted advertising based upon the stored information related to the user command.
9. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving, from a distribution network, programming at a viewer appliance at a premises of the viewer;

receiving a user command at the ~~[[a]]~~ viewer appliance ~~at a premises of the viewer;~~

establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component over a connection to an alternative network;

relative to receiving the user command, concurrently forwarding the user command from the viewer appliance over the connection to the alternative network ~~a component located remotely from the premises of the viewer;~~

executing the user command to alter an aspect of the content being viewed by the viewer; and

sending an indication that the user command has been executed.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein executing the user command comprises switching from one video stream to another video stream being provided to the premises of the viewer.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein establishing the communication comprises establishing a broadband connection to the alternative network ~~forwarding the~~

~~user command comprises forwarding user command to a storage device after the user command is executed.~~

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising matching the user command to a present context and including the matching in the user command that is forwarded.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein matching the user command to a present context comprises matching the user command to a current time when the user command is received.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising determining a result of the user command relative to a present context and including the result in the user command that is forwarded.
15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein determining the result of the user command comprises determining a change to a new video stream relative to the present context.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein receiving the user command at the viewer appliance comprises receiving the user command at a set-top box, and wherein forwarding the user command comprises forwarding the user command from the viewer appliance to a video control system.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising choosing content based upon the user command.
18. (Currently Amended) A system for capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

a reception mechanism located at a premises of a viewer that receives programming from a distribution network and that receives ~~for receiving~~ user commands;

a transfer mechanism located at the premises of the viewer, the transfer mechanism establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component over a connection to an alternative network, the transfer mechanism concurrently forwarding the user commands relative to the reception mechanism receiving the user commands, ~~the transfer mechanism concurrently forwarding the user commands to a component located remotely from the premises of the viewer;~~ and

a control mechanism that executes the user commands received by the reception mechanism to control an aspect of the content being provided to the viewer.

19. (Cancel)
20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the reception mechanism and the transfer mechanism are included in a set top box.
21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the control mechanism is included in the set top box.
22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the transfer mechanism concurrently forwards the user commands to a video control system located remotely from the premises of the viewer.
23. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing a user command from a viewer that is related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving programming from a distribution network;
establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component over a connection to an alternative network;

executing in parallel i) a capture of capturing the user command at the premises of the viewer and ii) concurrently forwarding the user command from the viewer appliance over the connection to the alternative network; and

continuing to store information related to the user command at the premises of the viewer after the user command has been executed.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising executing the user command at the premises of the viewer.
25. (Currently Amended) A method of capturing user commands from a viewer that are related to viewing content, comprising:

receiving programming from a distribution network at a viewer appliance;
establishing communication from the viewer appliance to a remotely located component over a connection to an alternative network;
receiving a user command at the [[a]] viewer appliance; and
concurrently forwarding the user command from the viewer appliance to the [[a]] remotely located component over the connection to the alternative network.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 25, further comprising executing the user command at the viewer appliance to alter an aspect of the content.
27. (Original) A method according to claim 25, wherein concurrently forwarding the user command comprises concurrently forwarding the user command to a remote storage device.
28. (Original) A method according to claim 25, further comprising matching the user command to a present context.
29. (Original) A method according to claim 28, further comprising determining a result of the user command relative to the present context.

30. (Original) A method according to claim 25, further comprising generating targeted advertising based upon information related to the user command.
31. (Original) A method according to claim 25, wherein the user command is concurrently forwarded as the user command is received, thus providing the remotely located component access to the user command.
32. (Original) A method according to claim 25, further comprising concurrently forwarding the user command as a control message.